

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 10432 132119Z

13

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SCA-01

VO-03 INSE-00 DHA-02 JUSE-00 AGR-05 LAB-04 SIL-01

EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 /080 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6771

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, ELAB, MX

SUBJECT: UNDOCUMENTED MIGRANTS: SUB-SECRETARY CASTANEDA SAYS

THERE WILL BE NO "MASSIVE DEPORTATION"

RES: MEXICO 10277

1. SUB-SECRETARY JORGE CASTANEDA (SENIOR FONSEC OFFICIAL
RESPONSIBLE FOR UNDOCUMENTED MIGRANT PROBLEM) DISCUSSED
REPORTS OF MASSIVE DEPORTATION WITH NEWSMEN IN LA PAZ,
BAJA CALIFORNIA, ON AUGUST 12. CONFLICTING REPORTS OF HIS
REMARKS WHICH APPEARED FOLLOWING DAY IN MEXICO CITY PRESS
SUGGEST HE MAY NOT HAVE BEEN ACCURATELY QUOTED.

2. "UNIVERSAL" QUOTES CASTANEDA AS SAYING MEXICO WAS
CARRYING ON CONVERSATIONS WITH U.S. AT HIGHEST LEVEL AIMED AT
PUTTING AN END TO MASSIVE DEPORTATION OF UNDOCUMENTED
WORKERS. ACCORDING TO "UNIVERSAL", CASTANEDA CITED CON-
DITIONS WHICH GOM HAD SECURED FROM US OFFICIALS UNDER
WHICH REPATRIATIONS WOULD BE CARRIED OUT: PRIOR DOCUMEN-
TATION AS MEXICAN NATIONALS; INDIVIDUAL
INTERVIEWS WITH EACH PROSPECTIVE DEPORTEE; PAYMENT
OF BACK WAGES; AND REPATRIATION OF FAMILY MEMBERS

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 10432 132119Z

ALONG WITH EXPELLED WORKERS.

3. CASTANEDA (SAYS "UNIVERSAL") STATED THAT A SPECIAL MEETING BETWEEN MEXICAN DIPLOMATS AND STATE DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES TOOK PLACE LAST APRIL, AT WHICH MEXICAN CONDITIONS WERE DISCUSSED. "SINCE THEN", HE ADDED, "DEPORTATIONS HAVE DECLINED CONSIDERABLY".

4. A MORE ACCURATE VERSION OF CASTANEDA'S STATEMENTS IS PROBABLY ONE WHICH APPEARED IN "NACIONAL":
"THERE WILL BE NO MASSIVE DEPORTATION OF MEXICAN WORKERS FROM THE UNITED STATES," CASTANEDA IS REPORTED AS PROMISING, "AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE USG ON THIS SUBJECT HAVE BEEN REASSURING." ACCORDING TO "NACIONAL", CASTANEDA BLAMED THE CURRENT PROBLEM ON AN INCREASE IN UNDOCUMENTED MIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES IN RECENT MONTHS, NOT ONLY FROM MEXICO BUT FROM OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES AND OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD. IN ADDITION, HE SAID, UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES HAD BEGUN TO RISE AGAIN IN THE UNITED STATES.

5. IN BOTH NEWSPAPER REPORTS, CASTANEDA IS QUOTED AS TAKING ISSUE WITH INS FIGURES ON NUMBERS OF UNDOCUMENTED MEXICANS PRESENT IN U.S., SAYING FIGURES WERE "EXAGGERATED".
JOVA

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